GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:195
ANSWERED ON:16.11.2007
WITHDRAWAL OF BIOMETRIC ATMs
Siddeswara Shri Gowdar Mallikarjunappa

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Automated Teller Machines (ATMs) with biometric features are being withdrawn from the rural areas; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE(SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL)

(a) to (b) : In terms of Section 23 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, banks are required to obtain prior approval of Reserve Bank of India for opening a new place of business. Such approvals are granted on discretionary basis, depending on the thrust of the Branch Authorisation Policy and directions issued in this regard. However, the choice of the location of the branch/off-site ATM and the nature of services offered is left to the discretion of the banks. The ATMs with bio- metric features installed by Public Sector Banks are functioning satisfactorily and as such, there is no proposal of withdrawal of ATMs from the rural areas.